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March 2, 2010

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: John F. Schunhoff, Ph.D.   
Interim Director

SUBJECT: **IMPACT OF RELEASE OF INMATES FROM STATE PRISONS  
ON DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
(Agenda Item #S-1 March 2, 2010)**

At your Board's February 2, 2010 meeting, Supervisor Antonovich requested the Chief Executive Officer, in collaboration with the Director of Mental Health, Interim Director of Health Services and the Sheriff, to provide weekly status reports beginning at the Board meeting of February 9, 2010 on the following: the fiscal impact on health and mental services being provided to patients resulting from the early release of inmates from State hospitals; the impact these additional services will have on the regular law-abiding clientele in mental health facilities and hospital emergency rooms; and an estimated cost that departments may incur for the provision of additional personnel and security enhancement.

#### **CURRENT WORKLOAD AND EXPENDITURE LEVELS**

Since our last report to your Board on February 9, 2010, DHS has not received any new requests for inmates to be placed in any of the DHS facilities.

#### **DHS PROCEDURES FOR PAROLEE ACUTE CARE PLACEMENT**

The Department of Health Services (DHS), in conjunction with County Counsel, has an established procedure in place when a State Correctional facility plans to release a parolee to Los Angeles County. The State Correctional facility representative calls the Office of County Counsel and informs them of parolees that may require placement in an acute care setting. The County Counsel representative contacts the office of the DHS Chief Medical officer, who evaluates and makes arrangements for a health assessment at one of the DHS facilities.

As we receive further information, we will keep your Board apprised of significant developments. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JFS:pm  
1002:004

c: Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
Department of Mental Health  
Sheriff's Department